

Family Guy
I Take Thee, Quagmire"
Tom Maxwell & Don Woodard
October 19, 2004

ACT ONE

INT. "WHEEL OF FORTUNE" SET - DAY

Coming out of commercial, Pat Sajak welcomes us back and reminds everybody that it's "Old School Week here at The Wheel," where the prizes are crappy and they're "bought" at the end of each round like back in the day. Peter is one of the contestants. Lois and the rest of the family watch from the studio audience, where Brian notes it's Old School Week throughout the Merv Griffin Gameshow Empire. (Cutaway to a contestant on the Jeopardy set: "'Places Negroes Can't Go' for \$20, Alex.") Back on the Wheel set, Peter - in spite of himself - wins the game and selects his prizes: a pair of ceramic Dalmatians and maid service for a week. CUT TO:

INT. GRIFFINS' LIVING ROOM - EARLY EVENING

The family is now watching Peter's episode of The Wheel. (Stewie couldn't be more bored. In fact, he's demanding dinner from Lois' breast, but she's engrossed in the program and puts him off.) There's some speculation about what kind of maid he's won. Peter's sure she'll be a Latino spitfire who will put him in his place. The doorbell rings, Peter answers it and there stands the maid, Maureen, a no-nonsense Irish woman with fiery red hair. She hands Peter a box. It's the Dalmatians, but they spill out, broken, onto the floor. Lois tries to clean up the mess but Peter stops her: That's the maid's job. Maureen starts to

clean up the pieces, muttering under her breath - which she does during every task she's assigned. Peter looks on. A Caucasian maid? Maybe she's a robot.

Meanwhile Stewie renews his bid to be fed and Lois obliges. In his zeal to get to his dinner, Stewie bites Lois. Unable to detach Stewie herself, Lois seeks Brian's help. After several futile attempts to dislodge Stewie, Brian finally gets him to let go and run to the TV by mentioning that Claude Raines is on "Biography."

INT. VARIOUS ROOMS OF THE GRIFFINS' HOUSE

Peter imperiously orders Maureen to perform all kinds of ludicrous tasks, which she reluctantly does with plenty of muttering. However, she draws the line at pulling up Peter's pants, saying that's not part of a maid's job. Peter says that technically it is, since it involves dealing with his dirty laundry. Lois politely asks Maureen to do some legitimate maid's work, but Peter quickly puts the kibosh on this, reminding Lois that Maureen is his maid, and can only do what he says. He then orders Maureen to grab a Q-Tip; she's got two years worth of his earwax build-up to get through before dinner.

INT. GRIFFINS' KITCHEN - LATER THAT DAY

Brian is drinking coffee. An offstage shriek is quickly followed by Lois entering, holding her breast. As she gets a band-aid from the cabinet, Brian offers his assistance, noting that the breast is a delicate organ requiring a deft and dexterous paw. Lois says she can manage. Brian tries

to get a peek, but Lois keeps her back to him. He finally settles on adjusting the toaster on the counter so he can catch the breast's reflection, but it's too late; Lois is already buttoning her blouse. He slams the toaster against the wall, then covers by screaming, "That'll teach you to burn my bagel," at the offending appliance.

Lois wonders what she's going to do; these feeding sessions are becoming very painful now that Stewie is getting teeth. Brian says it's obviously time to cut Stewie off and put him on the bottle. Lois isn't so sure, but Brian thinks she should put her trust in the good people at the multinational corporations who make baby formula and other fine products. (Cutaway: Workers at an assembly line. "That's enough of the baby formula for now; switch it over and we'll knock out a few spools of razor wire before lunch.") Lois agrees that maybe it's time.

EXT. GRIFFINS' BACKYARD - DAY

Peter is showing off Maureen to Cleveland and Joe. He's treating her like a horse, showing them her teeth. Peter thinks they should all get maids and have maid races; it's what they do in France. (Cutaway: Frenchmen ride maids. One breaks her leg. They shoot her.) Peter allows the others to give Maureen an order. ("Even you, Cleveland.") As Maureen mutters under her breath, Quagmire arrives through the gate and apologizes for being late; they hit a little turbulence over Chicago. (Cutaway: Quagmire, his co-pilot and several flight attendants are having a

party in the cockpit. Quagmire leans back against the flight-stick, putting the plane into a steep dive. Back in the main cabin, terrified passengers scream.)

Peter introduces his new maid to Quagmire, and tells him to feel free to ask her to do anything. Quagmire and Maureen make eye-contact and he's instantly smitten: "Will you have dinner with me?"

INT. HALLWAY/STEWIE'S ROOM - THAT EVENING

Just outside Stewie's door, Brian hands a nervous Lois a bottle of formula. He gives her a brief pep talk and she enters Stewie's room. Stewie assumes the position and Lois puts the bottle in his mouth. Horrified, Stewie spits it out. Lois assures him he's getting to be a big boy now; he should take pride that he's old enough to use a bottle. As she exits, Stewie cries out in anger: "This shall not stand. This shall not stand!"

INT. RESTAURANT - LATER THAT NIGHT

Quagmire and Maureen are seated at a table. Maureen is mid-monologue about the subtle differences between 409 and Fantastic. Quagmire sits, transfixed. The waiter approaches with menus. It's clear from the waiter's innuendos that this is the place Quagmire brings his victims. But this night is different as Quagmire indicates the lady will not be having the usual Rufie Sour, and he sends the waiter off. Posed with his hands folded under his chin, compliments Maureen on her dress. "It's beautiful, and somehow I don't want to rip it off." There's something

about Maureen that feels very familiar. (Flashback: "Remains of the Day." Quagmire's mother, a woman like Maureen in a maid's uniform, tells butler Anthony Hopkins she's pregnant with the master's child. Cut to the master, who looks and behaves like Quagmire.)

In another part of the restaurant, Peter enters to pick up a take-out order. He spies Maureen and Quagmire, who are now on the dance floor. He approaches them, and asks Quagmire not to keep her out too late; Peter needs Maureen to have a steady hand in the morning when she cleans out his toe jam. Quagmire says he'll thank Peter to show more respect to the woman who's just agreed to be his wife. Peter stands agape as the newly-engaged couple meringues away.

ACT TWO

INT. PETER & LOIS' BEDROOM - EVENING

Peter and Lois get dressed for Quagmire's engagement party. Lois is very happy for Quagmire. So is Peter: It's very smart to marry a maid, pointing out you don't have to respect your vows since you're not actually marrying a real person, etc. Meg and Chris appear in the doorway: Why do they have to watch Stewie? Lois says it's Brian's Lodge night. (Cutaway to Brian in a Shriner's Fez with a bullhorn as he barks funny instructions to a group of Shriners driving tiny cars in intricate patterns.) Lois reminds Chris and Meg that Stewie is going through a rough patch. (Cutaway: Stewie in his crib as a cold turkey drug addict.

Think Ray Milland in "Lost Weekend.") Lois cautions Chris and Meg not to take their shirts off in front of the baby: "Especially you, Chris."

EXT. QUAGMIRE'S FRONT YARD - A LITTLE LATER

Peter and Lois, Cleveland, Joe and Bonnie converge in front of Quagmire's. As they head up the walk, they discuss this turn of events, speculating who they thought Quagmire would marry. (Cutaway: Quagmire stands at the alter with an incredibly vulgar inflatable doll.) Someone expresses the thought that this is the end of an era. Peter disagrees; nothing's gonna change Quagmire. The front door opens, and Quagmire meets his guests wearing an apron: "Wipe you feet and stay on the runner."

INT. QUAGMIRE'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

The group enters to find Quagmire's swinging bachelor pad turned into a Martha Stewart country cottage. While Maureen sits in an easy chair, not lifting a finger, Quagmire serves hors d'oeuvres. Peter asks Maureen for a drink; she tells him to get it himself. Peter snorts and pushes the button which normally reveals the wet bar. Instead, a mechanical display of dancing, spinning stuffed bears rises from the cabinet while music box chimes play "Teddy Bears' Picnic."

INT. STEWIE'S ROOM - SAME TIME

Chris and Meg check up on a strung out Stewie, who tries to color within the lines of his Kurt Cobain coloring book. They shrug and exit.

INT. QUAGMIRE'S DINING ROOM - A LITTLE LATER

Everyone is seated at the dinner table, talking about plans for the wedding. The women are impressed. The men are mystified. Quagmire mentions they're writing their own vows. As he starts to read his, he's overcome with emotion and breaks down in tears.

INT. GRIFFINS' LIVING ROOM - SAME TIME

Brian comes home from his Lodge meeting intending to watch some TV. To his horror he finds Stewie attempting to climb into the TV to suckle Ma Joad in "The Grapes of Wrath."

INT. QUAGMIRE'S ENTRYWAY - LATER

Quagmire and Maureen say goodnight to their guests. Quagmire hands out neatly-wrapped packages of homemade fudge to tide them over on their way home. Peter, Joe and Cleveland exit in a zombie-like stupor.

INT. PETER AND LOIS' BEDROOM - LATER THAT NIGHT

As they get ready for bed, Lois notes the positive change Maureen has made on Quagmire: "He just seems so much more human." Peter stares out the window and sees Quagmire standing on the lawn, serenading Maureen with a guitar.

Peter: "Human? Or gay?"

They climb into bed and turn out the light. In the darkness, Lois is pleasantly surprised by what she thinks are Peter's advances. However, she becomes alarmed at their increasing intensity. She turns on the light to find Peter

asleep and Stewie furiously operating a breast pump attached to her nipple.

EXT. THE GRIFFINS' BACKYARD - NEXT DAY

Peter is in the backyard attempting to climb into a hammock. Joe and Cleveland show up with good news: They're opening a new Po' Folks Fried Chicken and giving away free "cracklin's." Peter is excited. He loves cracklin's; all that fried goodness without filling up on that annoying chicken meat. They go to the fence and call for Quagmire to come along, but to their horror, he's on his hands and knees planting a border of primroses. He can't possibly join them. He promised Maureen he'd hook up the wishing well and windmill today. Peter tells Quagmire he seems to have changed a bit since his engagement to the maid. Enraged, Quagmire grabs a pair of garden shears to Peter's throat and threatens to kill him if he ever refers to Maureen as a maid again. Maureen comes out of the house and tells Quagmire it's time for their power walk, and off they go in their matching jogging suits.

The guys all agree they need to do something to bring Quagmire back to his senses. But how? Peter has a plan: They'll throw him an incredibly raunchy bachelor party that will bring out the selfish, misogynistic sleazebag that was Quagmire. Then they'll have their friend back again.

EXT. PARK - DAY

Lois pushes Stewie in the stroller. Brian walks alongside, discussing with Lois whether the Rosenbergs were

guilty. In the stroller, Stewie is twitching and rolling three balls in his hand, a la Captain Queeg. Suddenly he spots a woman nursing a baby on a bench across the way. As Lois and Brian continue their discussion, we cut back to Stewie, who has knocked the baby onto the ground and is feeding at the breast of the horrified mother.

Snapped out of their chat by the woman's shrieks, Brian and Lois rush to her aid. Lois admonishes Stewie, but then turns her frustration toward Brian. Maybe this bottle-feeding idea of Brian's wasn't such a good idea after. As Lois helps the woman and her child, Stewie confronts Brian about putting this whole bottle-feeding idea into Lois' head. Brian feigns innocence, but finally comes clean and agrees to help Stewie with his problem.

INT. STRIP CLUB - A FEW DAYS LATER

Peter, Cleveland and Joe await Quagmire's arrival, seated in a V.I.P. banquette. Cleveland casually runs down his schedule, noting that after a few drinks and dances, they'll adjourn to a private room with hookers and a party platter consisting of bologna and pimento cheese. Quagmire enters. The guys give out a cheer and wave him over. Quagmire waves back - and holds the door open, allowing Maureen, Lois and Bonnie to enter to the clichéd sound of a needle scratching across a phonograph record. All activity comes to a halt.

Peter rushes over and wonders what's going on. Quagmire nonchalantly explains it wouldn't be a party

without their better halves. Peter is stupefied. The strip bar owner introduces himself to Lois and says couldn't help noticing her enormous breasts across the room. He wonders if she'd like to go two minutes on the "audition pole." He also points out a spot on Lois' shirt and says her silicon must be leaking. Lois tells him it's actually breast milk. The owner promptly throws up. Cleveland crosses over and supposes he'll be the only one staying for the hookers. Peter looks over at Quagmire and Maureen, the happy couple, who stare into each other's eyes. DISSOLVE TO:

INT. CHURCH - A FEW DAYS LATER

Quagmire and Maureen, still staring at each other, now stand at the altar. The priest pronounces them man and wife. In the congregation, Lois and Bonnie dab their eyes, in contrast to Peter, Joe and Cleveland, who sob openly.

INT. BANQUET ROOM - LATER

The reception is in full swing. Maureen and her redheaded Irish relatives all dance to a Celtic band a la "River Dance." Joe and Cleveland raise a glass to the memory of the old Quagmire. Peter refuses to join their toast, and crosses to Quagmire, who's with the band, enthusiastically playing the spoons. Peter grabs his buddy by the collar and pulls him around the corner (where Chris is secretly stuffing his face with hors d'oeuvres). Peter sends Chris away, then asks Quagmire if he's truly happy. Quagmire insists he is. Peter presses the issue, demanding Quagmire look him in the eye and tell him he's going to be

content with a life of fidelity, potlucks and Home Depot - essentially, the life Quagmire watches Peter sleepwalk through every day. Quagmire starts to shake: "Peter. What have I done? Help me."

ACT THREE

INT. THE DRUNKEN CLAM - NEXT DAY

Peter, Cleveland, Joe and Quagmire brainstorm how to get Quagmire out of his marriage. Quagmire asks Cleveland how he got out of his marriage. Cleveland: "You slept with my wife." Peter thinks they've stumbled on the answer.

SMASH CUT TO:

EXT. QUAGMIRE'S FRONT YARD - LATER THAT DAY

As "The Theme From Shaft" plays, Cleveland - dressed as Isaac Hayes with the silver-chained vest -- boldly makes his way to Quagmire's front door. He knocks and Maureen opens the door and tells him Quagmire isn't there. It isn't Quagmire he came to see, he tells her. Maureen smiles and invites him in.

Meanwhile, from behind the hedge, Peter, Quagmire and Joe look on. Joe wonders how long they need to wait. Peter tells him it won't be long; the black man is the most romantic species on Earth.

INT. QUAHOG COMMUNITY CENTER HALLWAY/MEETING ROOM - SAME

TIME

Brian and Stewie walk along a corridor passing rooms with various support group signs on them: Alcoholics Anonymous, Gamblers Anonymous, Wife-Beaters Well Know To The

World. Finally they arrive at a door marked "Chronic Breast Feeders." Stewie balks: It's a complete waste of time. Brian says he's there for Stewie. Stewie wants to know what the hell that means. Brian doesn't have an answer. He suggests they go in.

Inside the room, the meeting is in progress. The leader has Stewie and Brian sit as a man finishes his testimony. The leader has Stewie introduce himself, but Stewie is reluctant to share. He doesn't even know why he's there. He doesn't want to give up breast-feeding, and rhapsodizes about the warm, sweet, creamy, life-giving force flowing into his body. Several members of the group flee the room in tears. The leader rises to point out they all felt as Stewie did, but they realized that, until they kicked the habit, they'd always be slaves to their mother, always under her control. This registers with Stewie. He would love to be free of Lois, and delights over the possibility of never having to see her again. "Oh, to shed the yoke of mammary dependence." The group looks at him, confused. "I want to get off the boob." The group cheers. Brian puts his arm around Stewie. Well done, lad.

EXT. QUAGMIRE'S FRONT YARD - A LITTLE LATER

Peter, Quagmire and Joe decide it's time to surprise the two lovebirds and enter Quagmire's house.

INT. QUAGMIRE'S HALLWAY/BEDROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Peter, Quagmire and Joe stand outside the closed master bedroom door. Through the door they hear Maureen saying,

"Yes, Cleveland, that's the spot. Yes! Perfect!" They burst in, only to find Cleveland on a ladder hanging drapes under Maureen's direction. Peter's confused. Is this all they've been doing? Cleveland tells him no, he also stenciled the yellow crocus border along the walls. Maureen smiles: As long as the rest of the guys are there, she could use a little help in the backyard.

INT. QUAGMIRE'S BACKYARD - LATER

Peter, Cleveland, Joe and Quagmire stand around a fire burning in a metal barrel. They take turns throwing armfuls of Quagmire's pornography into the inferno. Quagmire says it's no use: He's stuck with Maureen for the rest of his long and horrible life. Peter gets an idea. If Quagmire died, he'd be free. Joe takes out his service revolver and takes aim at Quagmire "I'll put one in your temple; you'll be dead before you hit the ground." Peter explains they have to fake Quagmire's death. Various insane ideas are pitched but Peter says they need to keep it simple. He tells Quagmire to lie down on the ground as if he fell from the tree. When Maureen comes out, Peter instructs, let Peter do the talking. SMASH CUT TO:

EXT. QUAGMIRE'S BACKYARD - MOMENTS LATER

Maureen is there with the guys, standing over Quagmire's lifeless body. She asks what Quagmire was doing in the tree. Peter tells her Quagmire was picking an apple. Maureen notes it's not an apple tree. Peter immediately panics and goes into a long and complicated tale that

involves O.J., Manson, and Tim McVeigh. The point is, Peter says, Quagmire is dead and there's no bringing him back. Maureen starts to cry. The guys pat Peter on the back.

INT. GRIFFINS' LIVING ROOM - DAY

Brian is standing by the TV. He asks Stewie if he's ready. Stewie says he'll never know till he tries. Brian turns the TV on and flips to the Playboy channel. Topless women play volleyball and frolic along the beach. Anything, Brian asks? Nothing, Stewie replies. He's free of that tyrannical woman. Lois enters. She complains to Brian that her breasts are so engorged she has to get relief or she won't be able to sit through Quagmire's funeral. Over Brian's protest, she picks up Stewie and places him at her breast. Stewie struggles to resist, but it's useless: One taste and he's hooked again.

EXT. CEMETARY -NEXT DAY

It's a small turnout. The guys and their wives and the widow are graveside, gathered around the coffin. The same priest who married Quagmire and Maureen is presiding. Cleveland whispers to Peter that he hopes this works. Peter is confident. Quagmire has 30 minutes of air, which is plenty of time to hold the service, then send the wives and Maureen home while they guys dig up the re-bachelorized Quagmire. Meanwhile Quagmire - Peter assures Cleveland - is living like a king. (CUTAWAY: Quagmire, in the coffin, lifts his oxygen mask long enough to guzzle a martini as he watches porn on a laptop.)

The priest says it will take a lot to get Quagmire to heaven. Therefore, he's going to read the entire Bible: "In the beginning..." Peter starts to look a little worried and checks his watch. DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. CEMETARY - LATER

The priest is rambling through the long list of "begats." (CUTAWAY: Quagmire in the coffin, short of breath and getting nervous.) Peter looks at his watch again. DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. CEMETARY - LATER

The priest finishes the Old Testament and starts the New as a voice calls out from behind the gathering: "And they all lived happily ever after. We know the story. Some of us have places to be." Peter turns around to find it's Death tapping his foot impatiently. The priest gives up and orders the coffin lowered into the ground. Peter asks Death why he's there. "Why am I here? At a funeral? Think about that a minute." Peter does, and finally puts it together. He panics. Death can't take Quagmire; it's just a ruse. Is it, Death asks? He points to the gravesite. To his horror, Peter turns around to see a cement truck emptying its load into the grave. Peter rushes over to the funeral director, who explains that since they took the cheap route and chose a plywood coffin, the city requires the grave to be sealed with cement.

Panicked, Peter tries to talk Maureen into going home, but she won't leave the gravesite. Just as all hope seems

lost, Quagmire claws his way out of the wet cement and gasps for a breath of fresh air. Maureen runs to embrace him and he tries to dig himself back down into the cement but it's too late...she has him in her clutches. Peter turns to Death and points out Quagmire is alive and Death can't take him. Death shows Peter the paperwork for Glenn Quagmire and says he can't go back empty handed. Peter looks at the documents, then grabs a pen and makes a few quick changes, writing Maureen's name in place of Glenn's. Death's pretty sure his supervisor won't approve that.

Maureen helps Quagmire to his feet and tells him they need to get home: They have tulip bulbs to plant, then it's off to visit her folks at the assisted living center, where Quagmire can help Maureen give her father a bath. Repulsed, Death just reaches out and touches Maureen, who drops dead. Death carts her off.

Quagmire thanks the guys, then spots a young widow placing flowers on a nearby grave and heads for her. Their friend is back and all is right with the world.